



Welcome back

Club Rush, Penguin Plunge and more activities scheduled to kick off semester

By Kaila Contreras
THE COLLEGIAN

It's a new semester and while some students already know what's going on around campus, incoming freshmen and transfer students might not have a clue.

Welcome Week is a series of events spread over two weeks for new freshmen, transfer students and others to get to know the campus and meet other students.

"Like I tell most first-term freshmen and transfer students,

"It's important to build relationships because those relationships will help you become successful."

--Sergio Martinez, Student Life Director, on building relationships

it's important to be connected," said Student Life Director Sergio Martinez. "It's important to build relationships because those relationships will help you become successful. ... Building relationships with faculty, staff and students will give you access to resources like information, deadlines,

See **WELCOME**, Page 10

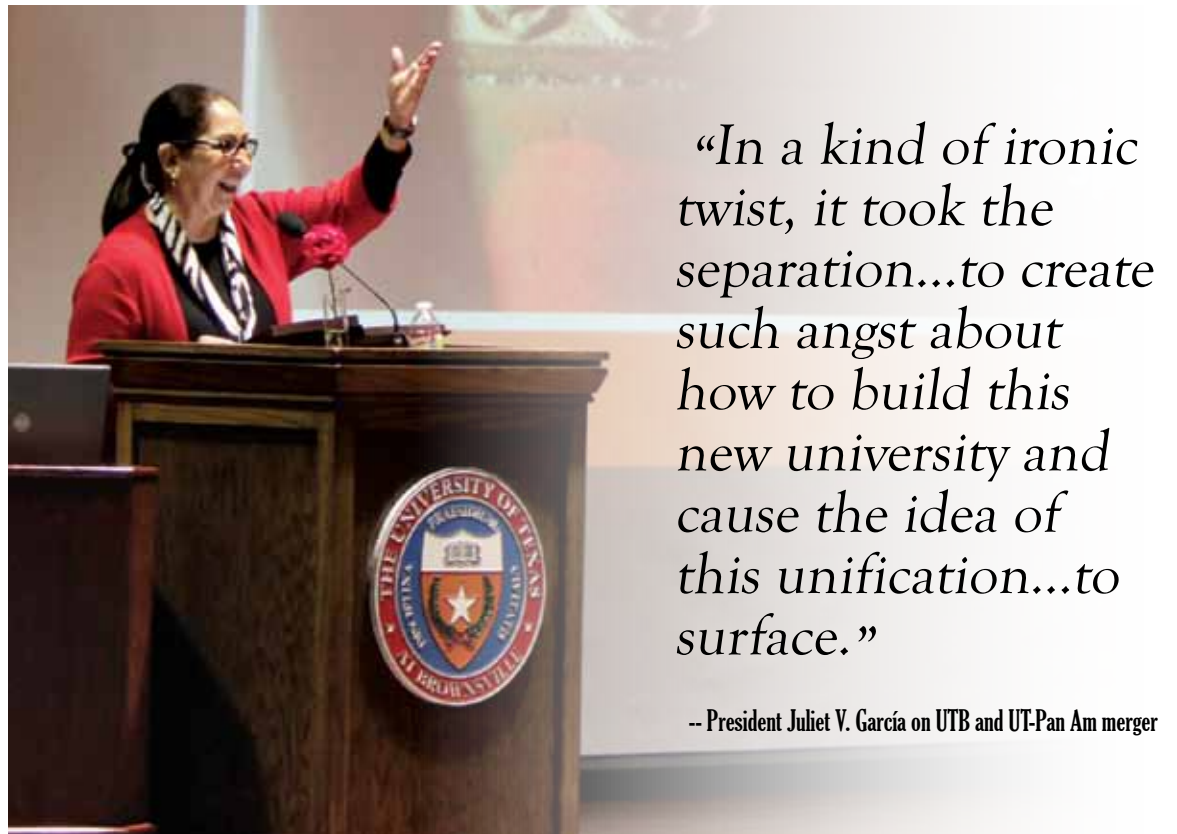
NEWS HIGHLIGHTS



Español
Conoce a John y a su país
Pg. 14

On the horizon

García talks about university's future during Convocation



"In a kind of ironic twist, it took the separation...to create such angst about how to build this new university and cause the idea of this unification...to surface."

-- President Juliet V. García on UTB and UT-Pan Am merger

MICHELLE ESPINOZA/COLLEGIAN

UT-Brownsville President Juliet V. García welcomes faculty back during the Spring 2013 Convocation held last Wednesday in the SET-B Lecture Hall. García spoke about the university's past accomplishments and its plans for the future.

By Viridiana Zúñiga
SPANISH EDITOR

UT-Brownsville President Juliet V. García welcomed faculty members during the Spring 2013 Convocation to celebrate past accomplishments and talk about the future of the university last Wednesday in the SET-B Lecture Hall.

García spoke about University of Texas System Chancellor Francisco G. Cigarroa's plan to merge UT-Brownsville and the University of Texas-Pan American and establish an emerging institution, yet to be named, that will have access to the Permanent University Fund (PUF) in Texas, from which the

two campuses are currently barred from accessing.

The PUF is a public endowment that provides financial support for the UT and Texas A&M University systems with monies from state oil and gas revenues. It is projected to

"When we talk about creating the University of the Americas, that university already exists here..."

-- President García

quadruple in the next 10 years, which means that the addition of the new university won't

affect the funding for other institutions, she said.

The UT System board of regents already has approved the investment of \$100 million for the transformation of the Regional Academic Health Center in Harlingen into a medical school over the next 10 years.

The "unique geographic location" of the campuses, according to García, will be the signature for the new institution because it symbolizes a gateway for the Americas.

However, before implementation, the plan requires approval by the Texas

See **HORIZON**, Page 10



College Readiness Coalition

Texas Southmost College aims to make higher ed everyone's goal

By Alex Rodriguez
THE COLLEGIAN

The Texas Southmost College board of trustees has unveiled plans to make the college dream attainable through the College Readiness Coalition.

During a trustees' meeting Dec. 13, TSC President Lily Tercero said that "many high school students find the college enrollment process intimidating."

Tercero said TSC plans to make it a lot less intimidating by working with staff from the area's high schools. This would bring the enrollment process to the student's high school.

The goal is to have 100 percent participation of high school seniors, she said. The college plans to have every graduating high school senior receive an acceptance letter the same night he or she receives a high school diploma. The letter will include adviser information to help encourage the enrollment process.

The College Readiness Coalition will ensure that high school students complete such assessment tests as the

See **COLLEGE**, Page 10

On campus

>> **New food vendor:** Delicious Desserts awarded contract for three on-campus locations. **Pg. 2**

Local

>> **City comission:** Officials vote to lease buidling to children's advocacy center. **Pg. 3**



Politics

>> **Sworn in:** New U.S. District 34 Rep. Filemon Vela (D) is sworn into office in Washington, D.C. **Pg. 5**

A&E

>> **Horoscopes:** Back to *The Collegian* by popular demand, your weekly horoscope! Get an insight of what's ahead. **Pg. 6**

Online

>> **Weekly webcast:** Don't forget to watch exclusive on-line content at UTBCOLLEGIAN.COM.

INDEX

ON CAMPUS.....	2,6,10,11,12
POLITICS	5
A&E.....	7
CLUB.....	12

LOCAL	3
BRIEFS.....	6
BORDERLINE.....	8
ESPAÑOL.....	14

OPINION.....	4
POLICE REPORTS.....	6
HOROSCOPES.....	6
SPORTS.....	15

Delicious Desserts
extends service

Restaurant to begin as
campus vendor today
with meal plan options

By **Samantha Ruiz**
THE COLLEGIAN

Of the two restaurants vying to serve food on campus, Delicious Desserts outranked Mike's Taste of Chicago and will conduct a "soft opening" today in three locations on campus.

Delicious Desserts, which currently sells food in the International Technology, Education and Commerce Center and in the café by the University Boulevard Library, will continue its service in those buildings and extend it to the Student Union's El Comedor and a kiosk in Tandy Hall.

Students, faculty and staff will be given the option to purchase a meal plan from any of Delicious Desserts' locations.

Customers who buy a meal plan can choose from five different plans or pay for a certain number of meals in advance that will be deducted from a debit card.

The restaurant's menu includes an assortment of sandwiches, salads, soups, breakfast and lunch specials, cookies and a variety of fresh fruit and snacks.

Delicious Desserts owner Sofia Martinez said the limited opening today will feature drinks, sandwiches and breakfast and lunch tacos.

"Very similar to what we have at the [University Boulevard] Library," Martinez said.

Some of the items in Delicious Desserts' regular breakfast menu include a breakfast



COURTESY PHOTO

Delicious Desserts' vision for the Student Union's El Comedor. The restaurant will begin serving food there today.

taco combo and an egg biscuit combo, each for \$2.69, and a big breakfast plate for \$6.99.

The restaurant also offers sandwich combos of tuna and chicken salad, ham and cheese or turkey and Swiss for \$4.89.

Delicious Desserts also sells a variety of lunch plates, including a *carne guisada* plate, a grilled chicken with fettuccine alfredo and broccoli and cheese plate and a cold salad plate that will cost between \$6 and \$7. The plates come with iced tea, lemonade or water.

Delicious Desserts also plans to offer daily revolving specials, said William Dodd, UTB/TSC's purchasing director.

Limited versions of the restaurant's menu items will be offered in the Tandy Hall kiosk and the café by the University Boulevard Library.

The restaurant also plans to offer some of its food in Casa Bella but the priority is to serve in the three locations on campus, where most student traffic is, Dodd said.

"As soon as she has [El Comedor] stabilized, then I think she's going to want to look at [student] housing very quickly," he said.

Douglas Stoves, director of Residential
See **DESSERTS**, Page 10



COURTESY PHOTO

UTB/TSC Chess Team members are shown at the Pan American Chess Tournament in Princeton, N.J., last month. Seated (from left) are Axel Bachmann, Max Cornejo and Katerina Nemcova. Standing: Mauricio Flores, Aura Salazar, Luciana Morales, Daniela de la Parra, Jeffrey Serna and Armando Cortez.

Chess team gets new coach

Polish grandmaster sets
Final Four as goal

By **Samantha Ruiz**
THE COLLEGIAN

This semester, the UTB/TSC Chess Team welcomes new coach Bartłomiej "Bartek" Macieja to its program. Macieja began coaching the team a week before its last tournament on Dec. 18.

A native of Poland, Macieja has had a long experience as a professional chess player.

Some of the grandmaster's achievements include being the European champion in 2002, Poland's champion twice and participating in the most prestigious events of chess in the world such as the Chess Olympiads and World Cups.

Macieja has also been the captain of many teams he has been in, including his Polish team, when they won the national championship 12 times.

He has spent most of his chess career as a player but last year he decided to focus more on being a coach.

Macieja previously coached the Venezuelan National Chess Team for about two years and he has also conducted private coaching.

Asked about living and working in Brownsville, Macieja said he likes the campus but is still adjusting to the city's weather.

"I come from Poland and right now the temperature is really, really, low," he said. "Here, it's different, it's always warm or relatively warm, [and] there is no snow, so it is a big change for me."

Macieja also said that the UTB/TSC Chess Team players seem motivated and enthusiastic to work.

His goal for the team is to qualify for the final four of the next Pan American Intercollegiate Team Chess Championship.

"We need to rebuild the team because some



MICHELLE ESPINOZA/COLLEGIAN

Bartłomiej Macieja, a grandmaster and native of Poland, is UTB/TSC's new chess coach.

players [are leaving]. ... This year, two more students are graduating, so we need to do some recruitment," Macieja said.

The team is already recruiting a player from Canada who will come in August and one student from Ukraine.

Players who want to be on the UTB/TSC Chess Team should be good chess players. Macieja said he requires that students be grandmasters if they want to be on the "A" Team.

He said in order to be able to compete with other universities, UTB/TSC's "A" Team should have three to four grandmasters.

Students should also be able to balance playing chess well and keeping up with their academics.

Before hiring Macieja, a committee came together to evaluate the four applicants vying for the position of chess coach, said Douglas Stoves, director of Residential Life and Collegiate Chess.

"He was somebody who we felt very comfortable and confident that not only was he a good fit but he was going to allow us to continue our excellence in our chess program,"

See **CHESS**, Page 10

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OBITUARY

Yolanda Z. Gonzalez, 83,
librarian and genealogist

By Office of News and Information

Yolanda Z. Gonzalez, a beloved UTB/TSC staff member of 47 years, died Dec. 29 at age 83.

Ms. Gonzalez, who retired in 2001, worked nearly a half-century in the university's library, inspiring and educating the public to know who they are, how they came here and to learn about the city's history.

"Yolanda was a true daughter of the border country," said Tony Knopp, a professor emeritus in the university's History Department. "She immersed herself in the history of the communities on both sides of the border and was dedicated to preserving the family histories of the

>> SEE LETTERS TO
THE EDITOR, Pg. 4

original Spanish settlers and their descendants."

Known throughout the Brownsville community as the "genealogy lady," Ms. Gonzalez became interested in books and genealogy at an early age. She was taught to read by her father and by age 5 she became fascinated by his genealogy work.

Her interest was not only in family histories but in the heritage--the culture and traditions--of those families. She believed people must know their history before they can know themselves.

Throughout her years of helping others, Ms. Gonzalez traced her own family's roots back to a French-born ancestor who settled in 1585 in what was then New Spain.

In 1954, Ms. Gonzalez was a student at Texas Southmost College when she began to work in the TSC and the City of Brownsville Zachary Taylor Library in the Fort Brown Memorial Center.

In the process of organizing a system for the newly opened Taylor Library, she began to pull aside rare books and locating them in a corner of the library workroom to help prevent daily wear and tear.

This was the humble beginning of what would become the Hunter Room in the Arnulfo L. Oliveira Memorial Library, a remarkable collection of university archives, genealogy, local

history, rare books and personal collections donated to the library.

Knopp said Ms. Gonzalez was a valuable resource to him and many others in the community.

"Yolanda was always eager to assist me and all researchers in their quests for information on local history," he said. "At one point she was serving as president of the Matamoros Historical Organization while also serving as vice president of the Brownsville Historical Association. Also, she was well-acquainted with the Fort Brown ghost stories, and claimed to have encountered some mysterious circumstances herself."

Through her work she had contact with former first lady Barbara Bush, the late author James A. Michener and numerous professors from other universities who requested her services researching the first 14 families that were established in 1776 in Matamoros, Mexico.

Although Ms. Gonzalez retired in May 2001, she continued to tutor individuals and groups on genealogy.

She was married to Alfonso Gomez; they knew each other as children and were reunited years later--in the library.

A chapel service was held Jan. 3 at Funeraria Del Angel Buena Vista in Brownsville. Interment followed at Buena Vista Burial Park.

Helping
out

Assistant City Attorney John Chosy presents the proposal to lease a property to the Children's Advocacy Center during last Tuesday's Brownsville City Commission meeting.



STACY G. FOUND/COLLEGIAN

City Commission leases building to Children's Advocacy Center

By Alex Rodriguez

THE COLLEGIAN

The Brownsville City Commission has approved leasing one of its buildings to the Cameron County Children's Advocacy Center.

Assistant City Attorney John Chosy told the commission that under the agreement, the city will lease the building on FM 5112 to the center for a period of 20 years for \$1 per year.

The center in Brownsville serves as a safe haven for abused children.

Joanna Frausto, a forensic interviewer at the center, told *The Collegian* in an interview that police conduct forensic interviews to gather information about incidents of abuse from children, and

work closely with the district attorney's office when the cases go to trial.

The center also provides children and their families with therapy services at no charge. The center has a program which provides needy families with clothing, school supplies and toiletries. The center also has a community educator who visits schools and teaches the children things like "good touches, bad touches."

Chosy said the Police Department is excited about the Children's Advocacy Center "getting this property."

The current location in the Brownsville Independent School District poses restrictions on the hours it is open, he said. By moving it to a new location, police will have 24-hour access to the center.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thanking a kind soul

There must be hundreds, even thousands, of Yolanda Gonzalez memories, stories and anecdotes.

I remember Yolanda for her super efforts to help thousands of Central American refugees who crossed the Rio Grande into Brownsville in the cold winter of 1988-89.

She was instrumental in finding them shelter, food, health assistance and legal

aid.

She did not have to move a finger for those fleeing wars and hunger, but she did.

What a wonderful example, a woman of relative privilege becoming involved for months with those far less fortunate.

Thanks, Yolanda.

Eugene “Gene” Novogrodsky
Brownsville resident

Level the political playing field

It is difficult to think more than briefly about elections after what seemed like nearly two years of campaigning at the national, state and county levels, but this is the time to consider the role of money in those campaigns--between three and four billion dollars in just six months.

With that money in mind, and what it does to and for the candidates and the electorate, the Cameron County commissioners and Brownsville city commissioners will be asked this winter--as part of a nationwide effort that is being endorsed by all sides of the political spectrum--to support the following resolution:

We elected representatives support an amendment to the United States Constitution that firmly establishes that money is not speech, and that only human beings are entitled to Constitutional rights--not corporations, unions and other entities.

Unless this amendment is passed, imagine what elections in the coming decades will resemble--billions beyond

billions spent by moneyed minorities to ensure their destructive and shortsighted goal of an elitist-dominated United States is enshrined.

When the county and city commissioners are presented this resolution, attend their meetings and voice your support of the amendment that will help renew democracy.

One hour of your time, please, and if not for you, then for your children and grandchildren.

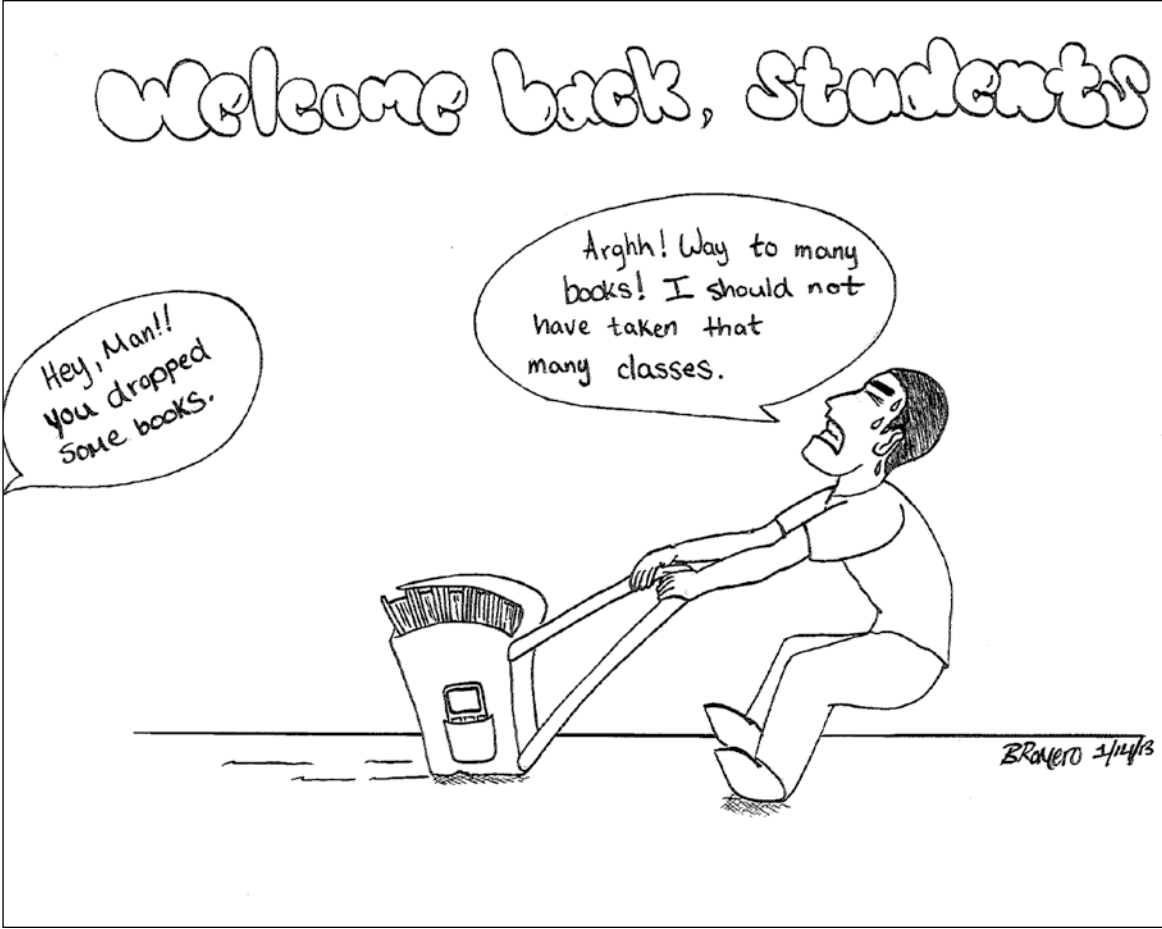
And before the meetings, at 1 p.m. Saturday in front of the downtown Brownsville Post Office, an hourlong public rally will be held to highlight the need for the amendment.

Add that hour--and the two will help ignite a grass-roots effort from the United States' western and eastern waters and northern and southern borders of regular folk trying to level the political playing field to include all, not just those draped with dollar bills who in turn pay a very pernicious piper.

Eugene “Gene” Novogrodsky
Brownsville resident

>>Policy: Letters to the editor must include the name, classification and phone number of the author or the letter cannot be published. Opinions expressed in *The Collegian* are those of

writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Collegian* or UTB/TSC administrators. The editor reserves the right to edit the letters. Send your letters to collegian@utb.edu.



iThink How do you plan to make this year better?



“Usually, I make the same resolutions every year, but I plan on trying to keep them this year. Maybe improve or be more studious in school and improve my time management a little better.”

Jeffrey Serna
Computer science sophomore

“I plan on studying more, focusing more on school, maybe less on social activities. Maybe cutting down on some of my responsibilities that I’ve taken on that have been taking up a little too much time, because it is my last semester at school. I need to work a lot harder.”



Stephanie Cohen
Engineering physics-bioengineering senior



“Actually, 2012 was a really good year for me. I am going to maintain the same lifestyle I did last year, and continue eating healthy and working out hard. I will also push myself at school.”

Jonathan Baldwin
Communication senior

--Compiled by Alex Rodriguez
--Photos by Stacy G. Found



By Kaila Contreras
COLUMNIST

Fourteen years ago there was a new addition to my family, a little boy by the name of Miguel who entered my life and changed my whole world.

Proving them wrong

Whenever a friend of mine comes to my house and visits me, my little brother is always the first person they meet. He looks like any other ordinary teenage boy, but when he says his first words to you, you can tell he has autism.

My mother told me the stories of when my brother was three years old, when the doctor told her he would never be able to talk or do simple everyday things like clean his room or brush his teeth. If only that doctor could see him now. Sure, he doesn’t pronounce words correctly but he’s always done his best to show someone what is on his mind. He is a

determined boy and once he sets his mind on something, nothing will get in the way of his goal.

His whole life, he has attended weekly speech therapy sessions, accompanied by our mother, and thanks to those sessions, his speech has improved dramatically. I would sometimes go along and sit in the waiting room. Most of the times I went, the waiting room was completely empty, except for my mom and me. His therapists would say positive things about his progress and it actually showed when he would talk to me and everyone else.

I thought things were finally

going great for him--until he turned 9.

Miguel was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes. The first several months of his new condition were the worst. My mother was the only one who really knew the right amount of insulin and the exact food portions he could have.

I am completely terrified of needles and giving someone a shot every day is not something I enjoy. He used to cry after every injection but now it’s just something normal for him and it breaks my heart knowing that a painful needle has become a part of his daily life.

Being an autistic and diabetic 14-year-old boy is difficult to

handle, but not impossible. Miguel always wakes up with a smile on his face, without a care in the world. Whenever someone is in pain, he always prays to God to make them better; he always puts other people’s feelings ahead of his own.

He is an inspiration to me because he has shown me that no matter what obstacle life throws at you, always have a smile and let God be your guide.

What that doctor said was impossible for my brother to do, he has now done a hundred times better and still is doing more incredible things every day. My little brother is the perfect example to everyone that nothing is impossible.

New congressman takes office

New U.S. District 34 Rep. Filemon Vela (second from left) is shown with members of his family after being sworn into office Jan. 3 in the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. Shown (from left) are his cousin, Manny Vela, CEO of Valley Baptist Health Systems; his cousin, Moe Vela, an attorney and former director of management and administration in the office of Vice President Joe Biden; his brother, Rafael Vela, a senior immunization specialist for the GlaxoSmithKline healthcare company; and his cousin, Manny “Mac” Vela. Congressman Vela, a Democrat who was elected last November, has been appointed to the House’s Homeland Security Committee. He said his priorities in the 113th Congress are to create jobs and support efforts to revitalize South Texas and border economies, according to a news release from his office.



COURTESY PHOTO

Fiscal cliff? Please, get serious

By Dave McNeely

If you were a Momma and the Congress was under your watch, and you encountered this fiscal cliff fiasco, you’d probably at least put them in timeout. Maybe even wash their mouths out with soap.

What is this brinksmanship? Though, that may be a misnomer to have the “man” in there. It seemed like a long, long time before enough members of Congress could “man up” and do the things necessary to allow the country to work.

The Texas Founding Fathers were pretty direct about their desire for their lawmakers to get the work done. When they wrote their post-Civil War constitution back in 1876, they tried to make legislators work efficiently by ceasing to pay them after a certain time.

That constitution set their per diem for living expenses at \$5 per day--a little more than \$100 in today’s dollars--for the first 60 days the legislators met. And then, the per diem dropped to \$2 per day thereafter. Get it done, the Founding Fathers said, and then vacate Austin to get back home. Or, if you’re going to hang around Austin, do it on your own dime.

That arrangement was tinkered with over the years--partly because the Founding Fathers hadn’t anticipated the impact that special sessions would have. As the 60-day limit came, legislators would adjourn, and then have to be called back in special session to continue their business.

In 1930, legislators were awarded an annual salary of \$4,800. And, the per diem was adjusted to \$12 per day--about \$160 in today’s dollars--for the first 120 days of regular legislative sessions, and for the first 30 days of special sessions.

But the no play-no pay idea in Texas persisted into the mid-20th century.

There’s a current national effort to bring that Stern Momma pressure to bear on the Congress. It’s ramrodded by a nonpartisan, or multipartisan, group called “No Labels.” More about that in a minute.

As late as the 1940s, Texas voters attempted to make their legislators work, and then get out of town, by paying their higher per diem through the first 120 days of their regular biennial session, and then cutting it for the days thereafter.

The no play-no pay finally petered out in the Texas Legislature a few decades ago. But the idea is gaining some traction

at the national level.

The co-founders of “NoLabels.org” include Texas’ own Mark McKinnon, of Hill+Knowlton Strategies. The group aims to help spur members of Congress to reach for cooperation by cutting their pay if they don’t avoid the Fiscal Cliff.

McKinnon is a media political consultant, who has ranged the political spectrum from working for Democrats Lloyd Doggett and Ann Richards in the 1980s and 1990s, to Republicans George W. Bush and John McCain in the later 1990s and 2000s. He’s also consulted for cyclist Lance Armstrong and singer Bono.

An e-mail from McKinnon for No Labels on New Year’s Eve, while the Cliff was still out there, started like this:

“The fiscal cliff is a disaster. Washington dysfunction is at its worst--and we’re up against the deadline.

“It doesn’t have to be like this. Our leaders can--and have--worked together to accomplish big things.

“No Labels has a strategy to make it happen. We’re putting pressure on Washington by pushing for No Budget, No Pay--legislation saying if members of Congress can’t pass a budget and all spending bills on time, they should not be paid--and calling for common-sense reforms to our government to give them space to work across the aisle like having members of Congress actually meet together every month.”

McKinnon says No Labels has more than 90 members of Congress signed up to carry legislation to make the pay for members of Congress contingent on doing their work--on time.

As is to be expected, “No Labels” is also trying to raise money to spread its message, as you’ll find if you go to their website.

That said, it’s time for a push to try to end the dysfunction in the Congress, wrought by congressional redistricting having pushed the representation to the poles of the political spectrum.

It’s time for stepping up to deal with education, health care, transportation, an aging population and other matters without a blood feud over everything.

And next, we might think about having members of Congress live under the same systems of health care, retirement, and other entitlements, or lack thereof, as most other Americans--just to know, and experience, what it’s like.

—Dave McNeely is an Austin-based columnist who covers Texas politics.



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE / ASSOCIATED PRESS

House Speaker John Boehner points to a chart to emphasize his talking point that government spending complicates the negotiations on avoiding the so-called “fiscal cliff.” The Ohio Republican was speaking during a news conference Dec. 13 on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.



Is Law School in Your Future?

If you’re interested in applying to The University of Texas at Austin School of Law, attend the informational session with the dean, Ward Farnsworth, and current law student Layshauni Rodriguez, a 2012 graduate of UTB and TSC.

3:45 p.m. • Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2013
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UTB

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Foreign Language Courses
The **Language Institute** will offer a variety of foreign languages courses starting today and ending April 29. The cost is \$375. The time and place of courses vary depending on the course. For more information, call the Language Institute at 882-4178 or e-mail language.institute@utb.edu.

GUITAR CLASSES
UTB/TSC will offer **guitar classes** from 11 to 11:50 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays in Eidman Hall 204. For more information, call adjunct faculty member **Jonathan Dotson** at 882-7969, or e-mail him at jonathan.dotson@utb.edu.

PENGUIN PLUNGE
Campus Recreation will host its third annual **Penguin Plunge** at 5 p.m. Thursday in the REK Center swimming pool. For more information, call Aquatics Program Assistant **Violeta Hernandez** at 882-5977.

PUBLIC MEETING ON TRANSIT STUDY
The **Harlingen-San Benito Metropolitan Planning Organization** and **Valley Metro** will seek feedback from students, faculty, staff and the general public on its **Operational Analysis and Implementation Plan** during a public meeting from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday in

Education and Business Complex 1.536. For more information, call Physical Plant Secretary **Norma Sada**, or e-mail her at norma.sada@utb.edu.
WELCOME BACK CARNIVAL
The **Office of Student Life** and **Student Housing** are uniting with the **Greek Council** to host a **Welcome Back Carnival** from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday at **Casa Bella**. The carnival will provide students with food, music and games. Volunteers are needed to help run the carnival. For more information, call Student Development Specialist **Stephen Cisneros** at 882-5138.

BLOOD DRIVE
Student Health Services and **United Blood Services** will sponsor a **blood drive** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday in South Hall 117. For more information, call Student Health Services Secretary **Beverly Estrada** at 882-7643.

‘NINETY MILES’
Jazz vibraphonist **Stefon Harris**, saxophonist **David Sánchez** and trumpeter **Christian Scott** will perform at 7:30 p.m. Saturday in the Arts Center to promote their album “**Ninety Miles.**” For tickets (\$27 to \$68), call 882-8785 or visit tickets.utb.edu.

UTB MARIACHI OCELOTETLÁN
First Presbyterian Church will host a concert by UT-Brownsville’s Mariachi Ocelotetlán from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Sunday. The concert will benefit the church and the **Juan Treviño Music Scholarship Fund**. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased at the church, located at 435 Palm Blvd. For more information, call 542-3564.

MLK DAY OF SERVICE
The **University Scholars Program** will host its third annual **Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service** starting at 8 a.m. Jan. 21 at **Dean Porter Park**. Teams will leave the park at 8:30 for their project sites and then return to the park at noon for lunch and the MLK Fair. For more information, call University Scholars Coordinator **Heather Olague** at 882-5775, or e-mail her at heather.olague@utb.edu.

SPRING TARDEADA
The **Office of Student Life** will host a **Welcome Back Tardeada** at 6 p.m. Jan. 22 in the Education and Business Complex courtyard. For more information, call **Student Life** at 882-5138 or send an e-mail to studentlife@utb.edu.

FLU VACCINES
Student Health Services will administer **flu vaccines** from 8 a.m.

to 5 p.m. starting Jan. 31 for students and employees of the university. For more information, call **Student Health Services** at 882-3896.

ISLA BLANCA BEACH CLEANUP
Friends of Isla Blanca is seeking volunteers for a beach cleanup scheduled from from 9 a.m. to noon Feb. 9 in **Isla Blanca Park on South Padre Island**. The organization will provide volunteers with water, gloves and bags. Volunteers are asked to wear closed-toe shoes, sunscreen and hats. Admission to the park is free for volunteers. For more information, call **Faith Ballesteros** at 772-9828.

ROTC INTERNSHIP
The **ROTC** is accepting applications for its **Leaders Training Course**, a four-week summer internship that can earn participants a two- or 2½-year scholarship if they contract with the ROTC after training. Applicants must be juniors, seniors or graduate students with a 2.5 cumulative grade-point average or higher, have no criminal background and meet medical standards and physical conditions. Applications are available in Lightner Center Room 109. For more information, call Capt. **Eva Bratschi** at 882-7630 or e-mail her eva.bratschi@utb.edu.

--Compiled by Brenda Lopez

POLICE REPORTS

Thursday, Dec. 6
2:34 p.m.: A student wanted to file charges against the person who placed a harassing note on her vehicle while it was parked in Lot O. The student said the note was defamatory, embarrassing and harassing toward her. She believes her former husband’s new girlfriend is the woman responsible for the note. Campus Police reviewed surveillance footage of the area where the student’s vehicle was parked.

5:36 p.m.: A man was arrested on charges of theft, criminal mischief and evading arrest after an off-duty public safety officer reported the theft of a bicycle in progress in the bike racks near Eidman Hall. Campus Police officers attempted to make contact with the man, who was in possession of a blue bicycle, but he fled the area. When the officers arrested the man, he began to shake as if he were having a seizure so the officers called emergency medical services to evaluate the man. Once he stopped shaking, the man was taken to Campus Police headquarters and then

The following are among the incidents reported to Campus Police between Dec. 6 and 16.

transported to a Border Patrol station to be identified and then taken to the Carrizales-Rucker Detention Center.

Monday, Dec. 10
12:46 p.m.: A faculty member reported that a student, whom she believes is obsessed with her, did not want to leave her office after she asked him to several times. When Campus Police arrived, the student had already left the office. The faculty member said that the week before, the student had gone to her office and refused to leave. The faculty member said the student remained inside her office for the amount of time her class usually lasts. She said she had canceled class and posted on Blackboard that she would be available to meet with students in her office. She said in the past the student has tried to obtain her personal phone number. The student also rubbed her upper back once and the faculty member immediately told him never to do it again. She said she felt very uncomfortable and afraid to leave her

office door open in fear that the student would walk in unannounced.
8:41 a.m.: A staff member reported that a student was yelling at staff members in an office inside Tandy Hall. The student was yelling about having to resubmit paperwork and the service she was receiving from the staff members. A staff member stated that the student had been waiting outside the office since before 8 a.m. that day and as soon as she entered, she began to complain about the university being responsible for her inability to register on time for classes the previous year. The student complained about bringing documents and filling out forms that she said the university should already have on file for her. The Campus Police officer stated that the student’s behavior changed as soon as she entered the office. She advised the student that she could be arrested for disorderly conduct and that it was a violation of the university code of conduct to be disrespectful toward other students, faculty, staff and visitors.

Sunday, Dec. 16
1 p.m.: A student reported that her former boyfriend kept knocking at her front and balcony doors in Casa Bella. She said her ex, who is also a resident of the student housing complex, came to her apartment more than five times a few days before. She said he had broken her phone during an argument in her apartment days earlier. The Campus Police officer advised the ex-boyfriend not to make contact with her in any way. He admitted to breaking her phone but said he had already given her the money for it. The student said he had not given her any money and that she had sent him an e-mail telling him she did not want to speak with him anymore. However, the ex said that they went out for dinner together. The student said she wanted to press charges against him for breaking her cell phone.

--Compiled by Samantha Ruiz

HOROSCOPES

By Héctor Aguilar
THE COLLEGIAN

Aries (March 21-April 19)-2013 promises to be a better year. Big financial changes are headed your way. Watch out with your credit card. You will be fortunate in the opportunities presented to you. Did you have a hard time with classes last semester? This year promises improvement if you are willing to put in the effort.
Taurus (April 20-May 20)-You’ve been considering taking classes on a topic of interest; now is the time. Don’t refuse a helping hand this week; you will need it. A healthier lifestyle was among your New Year resolutions. An evening stroll is a great way to take action.
Gemini (May 21-June 21)-Your work will be amazing this week, only if you allow it to be. You will have

wonderful financial accomplishments headed your way. Keeping your job will depend on your attitude; do not anger the boss. No fast food for you this week or stomach problems will also be headed your way.
Cancer (June 22-July 22)-Love is around the corner for you. Plan long walks on the beach with your loved one. If you’re single, 2013 will change that. Interpersonal relationships are important to you; be sure to keep your friends near.
Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)-You have a lot of plans for this year. Stay focused at all times and don’t grow impatient; your work will pay off. Follow your instincts and don’t trust those that make you uncomfortable. Be prepared to take risks because you might be on to something.
Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)-A serious relationship is headed your way. Success

is knocking at your door; be prepared to become whatever it is you set your mind to. Start your job search if you will be graduating in the near future. Watch your diet; stay away from instant soups.
Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)-Family is important to you. Big changes await, especially in March. Are you looking to change your living situation? Start looking now! In the house of love, the stars are aligned just right.
Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)-Now is the time to get organized. With a new year you get a chance to start off fresh-take advantage. Attention to details is important. You seek change and do so with innovation. Share your ideas; they will prove fruitful.
Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)-A challenging start of the year greeted you. Try to solve your problems as they present themselves and don’t wait. Don’t

let others walk all over you. Your positive energy will guide you well this year.
Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)-Good changes at work will come in 2013. You will be reaping what you sow. Your hard work shows. Take advantage of your friendly side; your friends will appreciate your help.
Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)-This year will be rough. Learn to balance both school and work or you’ll risk losing your head. Get rid of bad influences; you know who they are. Superfluous purchases are a bad idea. When money gets tight you’ll be wishing you hadn’t made them.
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)-Don’t allow others to eliminate your bright disposition. Don’t escape from your problems; escaping is not the answer. Be prepared to be rewarded for your hard work.

Foundation to show noted foreign films on Island

By Cori Aiken
THE COLLEGIAN

"Craft," a film by Brazilian Gustavo Pizzi, will be screened at 7 p.m. Jan. 22 at the Island Cinema on South Padre Island. "Craft" is one of five award-winning foreign films to be shown at the cinema by El Paseo Arts Foundation.

The films were discovered by the Global Lens Organization in San Francisco at a variety of respected film festivals, according to a news release from the foundation. The movies are in their native language with English subtitles. The first, Sergio Tubal's "The Finger," was shown last Tuesday.

Other films to be shown are Carlos Osuma's "Fat, Bald, Short Man," 2 p.m. Feb. 5; Kivu Ruhorahoza's "Grey Matter," 7 p.m. Feb. 19; and Tolga Karaçelik's "Tollbooth," 7 p.m. March 5.

El Paseo Arts Foundation "serves the communities of the Lower Laguna Madre area by bringing art, concerts, performances and plays to South Padre Island, Port Isabel and the surrounding areas, according to its website, www.elpaseosouthpadre.com.

Island Cinema is located at 4700 Padre Blvd. Admission is \$7. Refreshments will be available after each showing. For more information, call 943-4700.



Capturing everyday life

MICHELLE ESPINOZA/COLLEGIAN

"Juventud," an exhibition of paintings, photographs and sculptures by young Rio Grande Valley artists, opened with a reception Jan. 4 in Brownsville's Galeria 409, located at 409 E. 13th St. About 65 people attended the opening. The exhibit continues through the end of January. The gallery is open from noon to 5 p.m. Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free. For more information, call 455-3599.

By Cori Aiken
THE COLLEGIAN

Galeria 409 opened the "Juventud" exhibit Jan. 3, displaying a collection of paintings, photographs and sculptures by 15 young local artists.

"It's really great to showcase the best

talent in the Rio Grande Valley," said gallery owner Mark Clark, who said the artists are 35 and younger.

Artist Imanol Miranda said he likes to capture the "simplicity of everyday life" in his photos and credits Pablo Picasso, musician John Coltrane and the band Pink Floyd as his influences.

Photographer Yvette Vela finds inspiration in the buildings and streets of downtown Brownsville.

"As a photographer, they give me a great curiosity and move me to tell their story with every photograph," Vela said.

Every piece on exhibit is for sale. The show will be on display through January.

OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

2013-2014

UTB and TSC General Scholarships



The application and scholarship
guide can be found online at:
www.utb.edu/scholarships

Deadline is

March 1st, 2013



TSC

Office of Student Financial Assistance • utb.edu/financialaid



UTB



STACY G. FOUND/COLLEGIAN PHOTOS

Above: The Galaxy Bowling Center, at 3451 Pablo Kisel Blvd., is a place where family and friends gather for a good time. The center is open from 4 p.m. to 1 a.m. Tuesday through Thursday, noon to 2 a.m. Saturday and noon to midnight Sunday. **Left:** Teammates congratulate Fil Santa Ana (center) after a good score.

BORDERLINE Living

SPOTLIGHTING THE VALLEY'S MOST INTERESTING PLACES AND EVENTS



Left: Fil Santa Ana hurls the ball Jan. 3 during a mixed leagues tournament. Santa Ana is the captain of the New Image team. **Right:** New Image team member Mary Ramos prepares to launch the ball into the lane. Although Ramos has a busy schedule, she makes time to bowl. She has been on the New Image team for about two years.



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Mr. Amigo Events

President Costume Ball	Awards Ceremony Gala
February 28, 2013 8:00 pm-12:00 am	March 1, 2013 9:00 pm-1:00 am

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Tickets available at First National Bank (Morrison Rd. - \$100.00 per person.)

WELCOME WEEK EVENTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
JAN. 14 Information Tables 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 5-7:15 p.m. Lightner Center, Endowment Courtyard, Student Union, Education and Business Complex	JAN. 15 Information Tables 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 5-7:15 p.m. Lightner Center, Endowment Courtyard, Student Union, Education and Business Complex Club Rush 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Student Union Lawn	JAN. 16 TGIW Noon to 1 p.m. Student Union Game Room	JAN. 17 Student Health Services Blood Drive 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. MRCS 117 Penguin Plunge 5-7 p.m. REK Center	JAN. 18 Welcome Back Carnival 6-8 p.m. Casa Bella
JAN. 21 MLK Day of Service 8 a.m. to Noon Dean Porter Park	JAN. 22 Spring Tardeada 6-7:30 p.m. EDBC Courtyard	JAN. 23 Involvement Fair 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Student Union Lawn	JAN. 24 Root Beer Pong Noon to 1 p.m. Student Union Game Room	JAN. 25 3 on 3 Soccer Tournament 3 p.m. • REK Center [Deadline to sign up is 1/24]

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WELCOME

Continued from Page 1

knowledge acquisition ... about how to be successful on this campus.”

This week’s schedule is as follows:

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 to 7:15 p.m. today and Tuesday. Volunteers will be stationed at the Lightner Center, the Endowment Courtyard, Student Union and at the Education and Business Complex courtyard to help students find their classes and answer questions they may have.

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday. Student organizations will gather on the Student Union lawn to recruit members. Students can also dress up in Western attire and take “old-time” photos at the event.

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

COLLEGE

Continued from Page 1

TSI, STARR/TAKS, SAT/ACT and AP courses. The CRC will also reward students with dual enrollment credits from academics to TSC career and technical education academies.

The coalition is to be launched between March and early May, and the only thing left to do is to design programs for the individual high schools.

The school districts participating in the program are Brownsville, Harlingen, La Feria, Los Fresnos, Point Isabel, Rio Hondo, San Benito, Santa Maria, La Sara, San Perlita and Raymondville.

The coalition will be funded by grants, one of which is for \$100,000. Chet Lewis, TSC vice president for administration and finance, has informed *The Collegian* that the source

CHESS

Continued from Page 2

Stoves said.

Macieja is well known in the chess world and possibilities are “limitless” with him as a coach, he said.

“Because of the strength of his personal play and his coaching abilities, I know that he’s going to be a draw to students from around the world,” Stoves said.

The UTB/TSC Chess Team placed fifth and the “A” Team placed sixth in the Pan American Intercollegiate Team Chess Championship, held Dec.27-30 in Princeton, N.J.

The “A” Team finished the tournament with four match points out of a possible six and placed sixth among the 44 teams that competed.

The “B” Team ended with three match points out of six that were possible, putting them in 18th place, according to the UTB/TSC Chess website.

“We were a little bit disappointed that we didn’t qualify for the Final Four but I think we did about as expected going into the tournament,” Program Director

Thursday. Student Health Services and United Blood Services will sponsor a blood drive in Cardenas Hall South 117.

5 to 7 p.m. Thursday. Campus Recreation will sponsor the “Penguin Plunge” at the REK Center swimming pool.

6 to 8 p.m. Friday. Student Life will host a “Welcome Back Carnival” at Casa Bella, the student housing complex. The event will feature a “quarterback blitz,” “pirates revenge,” gyro ride, ring toss and a performance by the student band Red Rum.

During the week of Jan. 21-25, scheduled events include the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, the Spring Tardeada, Involvement Fair, the Root Beer Pong and a 3-on-3 soccer tournament.

cannot be revealed until the grant has been received. TSC also plans to seek \$10 million in funding for the coalition.

Tercero informed the board on the implementation of TSC’s institutional effectiveness process for Fiscal Year 2012-2013. The key components to the process are strategic and operational planning.

The president said that the strategic plan allows the college to develop a long-term framework for continuous planning that will be fulfilled within the next year to complete TSC’s mission. The process has been started and will continue alongside the operational planning. Operational planning will help review and improve educational, administrative, support programs and services based on the college’s goals and expectations, which will be implemented this year.

Russell Harwood said. “We were seated sixth going in, and we placed sixth, so we did exactly as expected.”

Macieja said he was disappointed that the team did not qualify for the Final Four round of the tournament but said this year’s tournament was difficult.

“There were five stronger teams, and only four could qualify to the final four,” he said. “This year was very difficult for us, not only because I came so late and the team couldn’t really prepare very well, but also our best player left the university. He was our leader in all the previous tournaments.”

Chess team member Max Cornejo, a native of Peru, thought the team did well in the tournament but was unable to achieve its main goal, which was making it to the final four.

“We were really disappointed because we were expecting to have some chances in the last round to qualify,” Cornejo said. “The team didn’t achieve its main goal but they played well in the tournament and we had good results.”

The next event for the chess teams will be in March at the Southwest Collegiate tournament in McAllen.

HORIZON

Continued from Page 1

Legislature: two-thirds of the vote in the House and two-thirds of the vote in the Senate.

“When we talk about creating the University of the Americas, that university already exists here, in small packets,” García said. “Chess is one of those packets. We have become already a gateway into the United States.”

García noted that members of the university’s chess “A” team are from Chile, Paraguay, Mexico and Colombia.

The update for the transition process is that, once approved by Texas Southmost College and UT-Brownsville, the Dual Enrollment program will no longer be a service of UTB; it will be transferred to TSC in Fall 2013.

García also announced that the Office of the President has been moved to the Biomedical Research and Health Professions Building and TSC President Lily Tercero will move into Gorgas Hall.

As for the future, in spite of all of the uncertainties in the creation of a new university, García said the building of a new UT-Brownsville campus is a fact. She said architects and designers have been hired for the project and have studied all the sites that have been proposed for the acquisition and, eventually, they will make a recommendation to the board of regents; however, a final

DESSERTS

Continued from Page 2

Life and Collegiate Chess, said: “Certainly for the residents of Casa Bella it would be nice to just walk across the parking lot [to get food], but part of that ... means that we would have to talk about how the clubhouse is set up and things like that and what we can accomplish there.”

After reviewing the request for proposals (RFPs), presentations, conducting site visits of the restaurants and asking for feedback from participants in the food services committee, the decision was made to recommend Delicious Desserts, Stoves said.

According to the recommendation of the food services committee, Delicious Desserts was granted the contract due to its knowledge of campus life and greater menu variety.

The contract went into effect Dec. 17 and will end Aug. 31.

Delicious Desserts plans to have a grand opening later in the semester.

Asked how she feels about serving food on campus, Martinez said she is “very happy.”

“I’m very happy that I’m going to be able to work here and serve the students,” she said.

Staff members on campus are also glad to welcome Delicious Desserts on campus.

“As a staff member, I’m pretty

decision will not be made until mid-February or March.

UT-Brownsville expects 7,400 students to enroll next fall semester, according to the president.

However, the right-sizing for staff will continue because all of the services that were provided through the partnership with TSC, such as enrollment, registration, advising and health care services, will be reduced.

“In a kind of ironic twist, it took the separation, it took the end of the partnership to create such angst about how to build this new university and cause the idea of this unification or merging model to surface,” García said.

The convocation ceremony included the recognition of Larry Lof as a professor emeritus. Lof is an assistant professor in the Biological Sciences Department who has ensured the preservation of historic buildings, such as the Young House, the Cueto Building and the Lucena House, among others; he also proposed restoring the Sabal Palm Sanctuary, which opened to the public last year, as president of the Gorgas Science Foundation.

Last semester, the Mathematics and Science Academy and the Computer Information Sciences Department were named as finalists in the 2012 Excelencia in Education Awards, an initiative that identifies and honors institution-based

excited that she’s coming on board because we’re in Tandy and the only option we have is McDonald’s,” said Cynthia Borjas, a contract specialist for the Purchasing Department. “Just knowing that Sofia is going to be on board and we can go over there and get something nutritious, something quick, other than McDonald’s—huge, huge relief there.”

Senior accounting and management major Stephanie Mendez is pleased that UTB/TSC has gotten a new vendor but said the university is not meeting students’ expectations.

Mendez believes that since UT-Brownsville is trying to become a 21st century institution, it should invest in building a cafeteria or a food court that offers different restaurants for its students like many other universities.

“To match the level that UT-Brownsville is trying to acquire ... they’re trying to be the 21st century university, they should start by providing good food to their students,” Mendez said. “If they have awesome dorms, then provide [students] with [a] really awesome cafeteria that matches those kinds of dorms.”

She said that students’ expectations of UTB/TSC are not being met and it is not at a level to compete with other universities.

For more information about the meal plans call Martinez at 544-5991.

programs that boost Latino student success in higher education.

Richard Price, a professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy who rang the University Bell to mark the beginning of the new semester, was recently named a Fellow by the American Association for the Advancement of Science for his research on black holes and gravitational radiation. The association is the largest scientific society in the world, serving more than a million members. Price is one of two physicists in Texas to receive the honor.

“He’s been instrumental in helping to build our physics department that now, because of his effort and that of others, rivals any Tier 1 institution in the country,” García said.

García welcomed Trini Yunes, the new director of Human Resources, and announced the promotion of Camilla Montoya as director of marketing. Maria “Nikkie” Hodgson, an assistant professor in the Communication Department, has been promoted as director of Civic Engagement. Former Director Shamina Davis will return as a faculty member. Bartłomiej “Bartek” Macieja will be the new coach for the chess program.

The late librarian, Yolanda Gonzalez, who served the university for 47 years, was also remembered during the ceremony. Gonzalez died last month.

Delicious Desserts’ Hours of Operation

Student Union’s El Comedor
Monday to Thursday
8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Friday
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Saturday
9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

University Boulevard Library Café
Monday to Thursday
8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Friday
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Saturday
9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Tandy kiosk
Monday to Friday
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Business hours may expand or be shortened to track student population between semesters and holidays.

THE COLLEGIAN

The Collegian is the multimedia student newspaper serving the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College. The newspaper is widely distributed on campus and is an award-winning member of the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association.

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A memory that keeps on giving

Commemorative Eddie Ramirez Scholarship awarded to psychology students

By Joe Molina
COLLEGIAN EDITOR

Laura Esquivel and Ruth Araujo are the first recipients of the Academic Advising Eddie Ramirez Scholarship. Both psychology seniors were awarded \$500 this semester to help pay for school.

“I feel grateful, definitely,” Esquivel said during an interview following a small award ceremony Jan. 7 in front of the Lightner Center. “Five-hundred dollars will help me out, buy some books. ... It’s an honor. ... It’s nice for someone to donate money for this.”

The scholarship was created in 2009 by the Academic Advising Center in memory of UTB/TSC Academic Adviser Eddie Ramirez after his death on Dec. 24, 2008. The scholarship fund has been growing through donations and payroll deductions from fellow employees and advisers, said Janie Llanas, an academic adviser for the College of Liberal Arts.

“The scholarship is for psychology and sociology majors,” Llanas told *The Collegian*. “We do have enough money at this moment saved up for another



Eddie Ramirez



BRYAN ROMERO/COLLEGIAN

Senior psychology majors Laura Esquivel and Ruth Araujo are the first recipients of the Eddie Ramirez Scholarship. Esquivel and Araujo each received a \$500 award during a ceremony Jan. 7 in front of the Lightner Center. The scholarship, which is named for Eddie Ramirez, a UTB/TSC academic adviser who died in 2008, was established in 2009.

three semesters, for a total of two years, and we are going to keep on adding.”

She said five advisers from different departments reviewed the applications.

“We looked at need, GPA, volunteer work, personal statements. ... Then we rated them,” Llanas explained.

Asked what long-term goals this scholarship is helping to achieve, Araujo replied: “I’m planning on [completing] a master’s on school

psychology ... to work with children.”

Across the Lightner Center’s entrance, students and staff can see a small tree growing in memory of Ramirez. It was donated by fellow adviser Martin Rodriguez in Spring 2009.

Students who wish to apply for the Eddie Ramirez Scholarship next fall semester may call the Academic Advising Center at 882-7362.



3-on-3 Soccer Tournament

Men's, Women's, Co-Ed

Registration Deadline
Jan. 24

Event Date
3 p.m. Jan. 25



Racquetball Tournament

Men's, Women's, Co-Ed

Registration Deadline
Jan. 31

Event Date
3 p.m. Feb. 1



5-on-5 Basketball League

Men's, Women's, Co-Ed

Registration Deadline
Jan. 30

Event Date
Week of Feb. 4

Interparras



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the Medical Laboratory Technology club include (front row, from left) Jennifer Reyna, Treasurer Semiramis Saldivar, Vanessa Ramirez, Giovanna Gonzalez, Perla Valles, Maria Elena Lopez and Elena Rivera. Back row: Maribel Cepeda, Mario Ramirez, Juan Rodriguez Jr., Vice President Marco Javier, President Julio Lozano and Secretary Nina Martinez.

Name: Medical Laboratory Technology
Established: Sept. 1, 1977
Purpose: To serve the community and engage in service learning activities.
President: Julio Lozano
Vice President: Marco Javier
Secretary Events Coordinator: Nina Martinez
Treasure: Semiramis Saldivar
Advisers: Associate Master Technical Instructors Ana Linville and Paula Kimball and Medical Laboratory Technology Program Director Consuelo Villalon

Community service: Beach cleanup, American Heart Association's Heart Walk and the Brownsville Independent School District's "Kids at the Movies."
Meetings: Every two weeks in Life and Health Sciences Building 1.208. The next meeting is at noon Friday.
Membership requirements: Must be part of the Medical Laboratory Technology Program.
Dues: None
For more information: call the Medical Laboratory Technology Program at 882-5010.

--Compiled by Brenda Lopez

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Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Mari Fuentes-Martin (second from left) poses with former and current Dean of Students staff members during a farewell reception last Thursday in the Student Union's La Sala. Fuentes-Martin, who has worked at UTB/TSC for the last 12 years, has accepted a position at the University of Texas-Pan American. Shown with her are Residential Life Housing Coordinator Debbie Perez (from left), International Student Adviser Aragelia Salazar and Judicial Affairs Coordinator David Marquez.



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Celebrando el pasado y planeando el futuro

García habla sobre los planes para la universidad en la asamblea de primavera 2013

Por **Viridiana Zúñiga**
EDITORA DE ESPAÑOL

La rectora de UT-Brownsville Juliet V. García, le dio la bienvenida a los miembros del profesorado durante la asamblea del semestre de primavera 2013 para celebrar los logros pasados y hablar sobre los planes para la universidad, el 9 de enero en el Lecture Hall de SET-B.

García habló sobre el plan de Francisco G. Cigarroa, canceller del sistema de la Universidad de Texas, acerca de unir la Universidad de Texas en Brownsville, la Universidad de Texas Pan-American y el Centro Académico Regional de Salud en Harlingen, para establecer una sola institución, cuyo nombre no se ha decidido, que recibirá financiamiento del Fondo Universitario Permanente (PUF, por sus siglas en inglés), al que estas dos instituciones no tienen acceso actualmente.

PUF es un fondo estatal que provee apoyo financiero a las instituciones de los sistemas universitarios de Texas A&M y de la Universidad de Texas y que se mantiene de los ingresos del gas y petróleo estatales. Se prevé que dicho fondo generará cuatro veces más ganancias en los próximos 10 años, lo que significa que la incorporación de la nueva universidad no afectaría el subsidio a otras instituciones.

El consejo rector aprobó la inversión de 100 millones de dólares para convertir el Centro Académico Regional del Salud en Harlingen en una escuela de medicina en los próximos 10 años.

La “localización geográfica única” de los campus, según García, será el distintivo de la nueva institución, pues simboliza una puerta para las Américas.

Sin embargo, antes de llevarse a cabo, el plan debe ser aprobado por la Legislatura de Texas: se necesitan dos tercios de los votos en la Casa de Representantes y dos tercios en el Senado.

“Cuando hablamos de crear la nueva Universidad de las Américas, esa universidad ya existe aquí, en pequeños paquetes”, dijo García. “El programa de ajedrez es uno de esos paquetes. Ya nos hemos convertido en una puerta para Latinoamérica hacia los Estados Unidos”.

La rectora mencionó que los miembros del equipo “A” de ajedrez son de Chile, Paraguay, México y Colombia.

La nueva información acerca del proceso de transición entre UTB y Texas Southmost College es que, una vez aprobado por ambas escuelas, el programa de inscripción doble que permite que los estudiantes de preparatoria estén matriculados en cursos universitarios, dejará de ser un servicio de UTB y será

transferido a TSC en otoño.

García anunció que la Oficina de la Rectora cambió su locación al edificio de Investigación Biomédica y Profesiones de la Salud y que la rectoría de TSC se mudará al edificio Gorgas Hall.

Sobre el futuro de la universidad, a pesar de todas las incertidumbres en la creación de una nueva institución, García dijo que la construcción de un nuevo campus es un hecho. Dijo que ya se contrataron arquitectos y diseñadores para el proyecto y que se estudiaron todos los sitios propuestos para la adquisición y, eventualmente, se hará una recomendación al consejo rector; sin embargo, la decisión final se tomará a mediados de febrero o marzo.

Se prevé que UTB tendrá 7,400 alumnos inscritos en otoño, dijo la rectora.

Sin embargo, la reestructuración del personal seguirá en pie debido a que todos los servicios que se proveyeron mediante el contrato con TSC, como inscripción, admisión, asesoramiento de estudiantes y servicios de salud, serán reducidos.

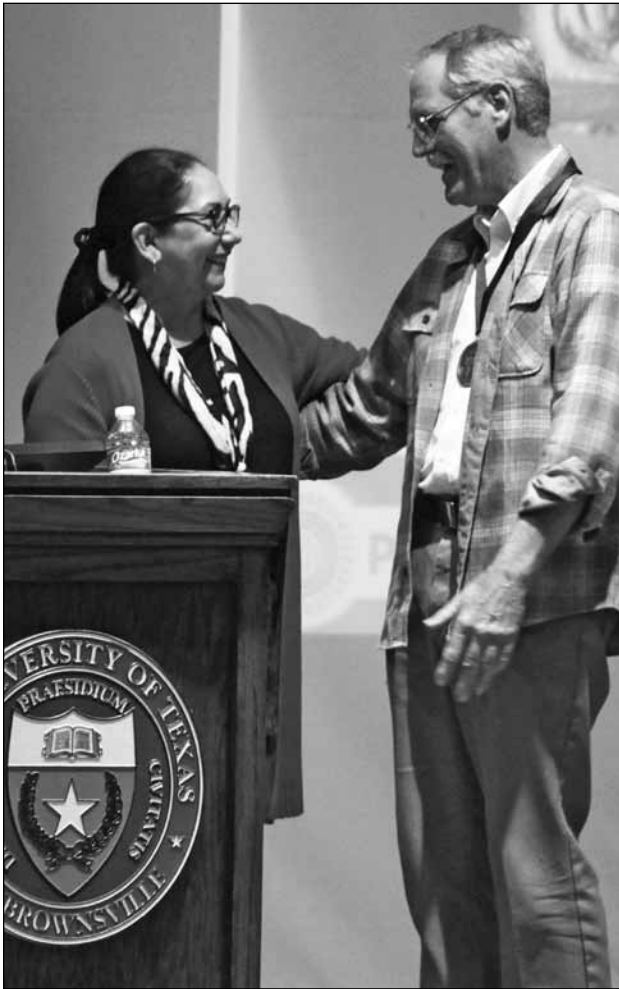
“Como una ironía, se requirió la separación, el final de la sociedad entre las dos instituciones para crear la ansiedad de establecer esta nueva universidad y hacer que la idea del modelo de unificación y fusión saliera a la luz”, dijo García.

Durante la asamblea, el profesor del Departamento de Ciencias Biológicas Larry Lof recibió el nombramiento de profesor emérito. Lof se ha encargado de la preservación de edificios históricos como la Casa Young, el Edificio Cueto y la Casa Lucena, entre otros; es el presidente de la Fundación Gorgas para la Ciencia y propuso la restauración del Refugio de la Palmera Sabal Mexicana, que abrió sus puertas al público el año pasado.

El semestre pasado, la Academia de Matemáticas y Ciencias y el Departamento de Ciencias Informáticas y Tecnologías de la Información fueron nombrados finalistas para recibir el premio de “Excelencia *in Education*”, una iniciativa que identifica y honra a los programas escolares que impulsan el éxito de estudiantes latinos universitarios.

Richard Price, profesor del Departamento de Física y Astronomía, que hizo sonar la campana de la universidad para marcar el inicio de un nuevo semestre, se convirtió en miembro de la Asociación Estadounidense para el Progreso de la Ciencia (AAAS, por sus siglas en inglés) debido a la investigación que realizó acerca de los hoyos negros y la radiación gravitacional.

García le dio la bienvenida a Trini Yunes como directora de recursos humanos y anunció el ascenso de Camilla



MICHELLE ESPINOZA/COLLEGIAN

La rectora de UT-Brownsville Juliet V. García felicita a Larry Lof, un profesor del Departamento de Biología, por su nombramiento como profesor emérito, durante la asamblea del pasado miércoles en el Lecture Hall de SET-B.

Montoya como directora de publicidad. María “Nikkie” Hodgson, profesora en el Departamento de Comunicación, fue nombrada directora de Participación Cívica; la directora anterior, Shamina Davis, regresará como profesora. Bartłomiej “Bartek” Macieja es el nuevo entrenador en el programa de ajedrez.

La finada Yolanda González, fue recordada durante la ceremonia. González, quien sirvió a la escuela por 47 años, falleció el mes pasado.



VIRIDIANA ZÚÑIGA/COLLEGIAN

Estudiante de
HOY
INTERNACIONAL

Nombre: John Yuru
Edad: 22 años
Especialidad: Ingeniería en informática
Clasificación: Estudiante de tercer año
País natal: República Democrática del Congo, África.

¿Qué idioma hablas? “Francés, lingala, inglés y un poco de español”.

¿Por qué decidiste estudiar aquí? “Mi tío me habló de la universidad, me dijo que era buena y, además, conoce gente de la región, así que dije: ‘¿Por qué no?’”.

¿Qué tradiciones hay en tu país? “Bueno, cuando hay una boda, es costumbre darle regalos a los padres de los novios, como un traje y un vestido, comida o dinero, o algo así”.

Menciona algunos platillos típicos: “Comemos frijoles y arroz. También el fufu, que es como un malvavisco, pero no sabe igual; se hace con papas deshidratadas y agua”.

¿Cuáles son los lugares turísticos? “Mi país es famoso por su variedad natural, pues tenemos muchos animales extraños y únicos, como el gorila de espalda plateada, el rinoceronte blanco y el okapi, que es

como un caballo, pero tiene las patas rayadas como las cebras y no existe en ningún otro lugar del mundo mas que en mi país. Hay ciudades grandes como Kinshasa, la capital, y Kisangani, donde se habla suajili”.

¿Qué diferencias y similitudes encuentras entre tu país y E.E.U.U.? “Tenemos mucho en común, excepto cuando se trata de la familia. Aquí sólo ven a la familia en ocasiones especiales y cada quien tiene su propia vida, pero en el Congo, la familia es muy importante y siempre está unida. Por otra parte, yo estoy acostumbrado al ruido de la ciudad y aquí, en Brownsville, todo es muy callado”.

¿Cómo se dice?
Hola: “Mbote”.
Adiós: “Kende Malamu”.
Me encanta: “Na leli yango makasi”.
¿Dónde está el baño? “Salle de bain eza wapi”.
Anécdota: “En mi país, no hay tantos límites en el licor y la edad en la que te permiten tomar y fumar es a los 18 años, entonces, cuando llegué aquí, tenía 19 años y fui a ‘Stripes’ a comprar cerveza. Me sorprendió que el empleado me pidiera que le enseñara mi identificación y que me dijera que no podía vendérmela porque no tenía 21 años. Jamás me imaginé que tendría que esperar dos años más para poder comprar licores”.
--Recopilado por Viridiana Zúñiga

¡Al agua, patos!

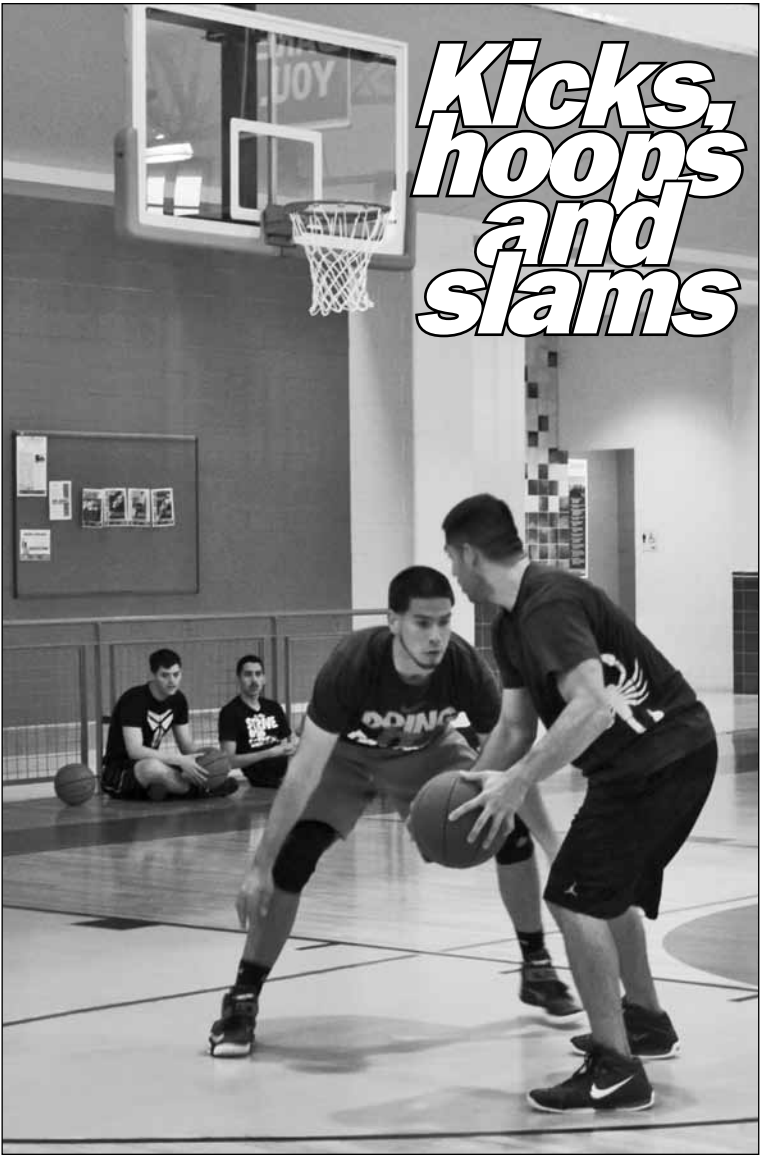
Reynaldo Salinas, un empleado de la planta física, limpia una fuente el 7 de enero en el Jardín de Esculturas Truan.

BRYAN ROMERO/FOTOS COLLEGIAN



Un pato criollo (Cairina moschata) descansa el 7 de enero encima de un muro de la resaca de Fort Brown.





MICHELLE ESPINOZA/COLLEGIAN

Junior criminal justice major Jorge Garza Jr. (left) and junior kinesiology major Pedro Montemayor play basketball in UTB/TSC’s Recreation, Education and Kinesiology Center last Tuesday. The Campus Recreation Department will host a series of intramural sports starting Jan. 25. The registration deadline for the men’s, women’s and coed 5-on-5 Basketball League is Jan. 30, according to Intramural/Club Sports Coordinator Raul Cano.

Volleyball team works to improve 2011 national champs regroup after defeat in 2012 national semifinals

By Estefania Rodriguez
THE COLLEGIAN

The UTB/TSC Volleyball Team, which was defeated last month in its bid for a second NAIA national championship, is already looking to the future.

Asked what his improvements are for next season, Athletics Director and Volleyball Coach Todd Lowery replied: “I think we really need to improve defensively a bit. Those were things that caught up to us at nationals; that and blocking aspect is what we will really focus on during the offseason.”

On Dec. 1, the team fell 3-2 to the Columbia University Cougars in the semifinals of the 2012 NAIA National Tournament Semifinals in Sioux City, Iowa. They ended the season with an overall 30-2 record.

This semester, Lowery aims to improve the individual technique of the team.

Nine starters are returning from the winter break to begin conditioning in February. The team will say goodbye to right-side hitter Paula Barros and outside hitters Erica Chimak and Lauren Berletch as they graduate in May. Freshman

middle blocker Katarina Stepanovic is transferring to Florida Atlantic University.

“Everyone else will be back and ready to improve,” Lowery said.

Last week, Los Fresnos High School senior Debbie Lozano and Paris Junior College transfer Karina Garcia signed letters of intent to play for UTB next fall.

Asked what he wants the women to focus on the most, the coach replied: “Of course, it’s nice to win, but we measure our success on what our students do as a whole. We have a great number of student athletes that do very well in the classroom and in the spring we really focus on the classroom. We cut back a little bit from practice time and that’s something we really focus on, but it is a combination of everything. Measuring the success by kids graduating, by winning, just by being good people and playing as a team, all those things we kind of measure them in success.”

Women’s soccer makes history

UTB/TSC Women’s Soccer Coach Nik Barjaktarevic is happy to remind the team’s fans

Campus Recreation sets intramurals schedule

By Kaila Contreras
THE COLLEGIAN

Spring 2013 has officially begun and Campus Recreation will start off the semester by hosting a series of intramural sports competitions beginning Jan.25.

Participants will be able to choose among 10 sports at the REK Center throughout the semester, including 3-on-3 indoor soccer, racquetball, 5-on-5 basketball and 6-on-6 dodgeball. Students, as well as faculty, staff and alumni who are members of the REK Center, are eligible to participate in the events.

There’s more to intramurals than competition, REK Center officials say.

“You’re going to get leadership skills,” said Raul Cano, intramurals and club sports coordinator. “Many people don’t do [intramurals] to win; they do it just to keep fit.”

Equipment will be provided for every event.

Students, except incoming freshmen, are required to have a 2.0 GPA to participate.

The deadline to register for the 3-on-3 Indoor Soccer Tournament is Jan.24. Register at www.imleagues.com or call Cano at 882-5970.

how excited he was about how the season went.

“We finished the season in the quarterfinals of the national tournament in the Elite 8 of the 2012 NAIA tournament, which was the biggest accomplishment so far,” Barjaktarevic said.

On Nov. 28, the team lost 1-0 to Illinois’ Olivet Nazarene University. Although it was defeated, the team triumphed in having the best season in UTB/TSC women’s soccer history.

Asked what changes he plans to make for next season, the coach replied: “I think every single year we kind of review the season and everything is really similar. I think every year we try to improve on what we had, and who’s graduating as seniors ... so, obviously, we are going to try and bring in new players and build up on what we have accomplished in the previous six years and this season and every season so far.”

High hopes for golfers

Entering his third season at UTB/TSC, Golf Coach Anthony Lopez has high hopes for the men’s and women’s teams.

“The women’s team is in the Top 25 in the nation; they are 23rd, which are the lowest they have ever been,” Lopez said. “We are bringing in another player in the men’s side. If everything works out as it should, we should be top 25 by the first few polls.”

Both teams began training last September and competed



COURTESY PHOTO

Los Fresnos High School Senior Debbie Lozano (seated, second from left) signs a letter of intent last Wednesday to play for the UT-Brownsville Volleyball Team next fall. Also seated are UTB/TSC Athletics Director and Head Volleyball Coach Todd Lowery and Lozano’s parents, Debbie and Jesus H. Lozano. Standing are Los Fresnos High School Varsity Assistant Coach Julie Breedlove, Varsity Head Coach Rebecca Woods, Athletic Director Clint Finley and Principal Ronnie Rodriguez.



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the UTB/TSC Volleyball Team huddle during the semifinals of the NAIA national championship tournament last month in Sioux City, Iowa. The team fell 3-2 to the Columbia University Cougars on Dec. 1.

in three non-conference tournaments each during the fall.

The women’s team placed third at Texas Lutheran University’s Bulldog Classic on Sept. 11; second at the Talamonti Invitational at Sterling Country Club on Oct. 8; and second at the UTB Women’s Fall Shootout on South Padre Island Golf Course on Nov. 4.

The men’s placed fifth out of 12 teams in the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor Invitational Tournament on Sept. 25; fourth out of six teams at the Talamonti Invitational at Sterling Country Club on Oct. 8; and ninth out of 15 teams in the Northwood University Fall Shootout on Oct. 29.

Lopez said the men’s last tournament of 2012 was “the best show of the fall semester.”

“It was a very strong field and we were able to beat teams that were top 25 in the nation,” he said.

Asked who the standout players are, Lopez replied: “We got a few on the men’s side, two brothers from Corpus, extremely talented. But, we also have a really deep team on the men’s side, a lot of talent—two Canadians, a couple of boys from the [Rio Grande] Valley and a couple from Mexico, too. They can really play. On the women’s side, it really is an all-local team, the furthest north we go is Corpus and to be 23rd in the nation, from Corpus down, it says something really good about our region.”

Lopez said that UTB/TSC’s biggest rivals on the men’s side this season will be Texas Wesleyan University, Northwood University and Our Lady of the Lake University.

“We are fourth in the conference,” he said. “In the nation Texas Wesleyan is No. 1, Northwood is No. 8 and Our Lady of the Lake is 12. So, we are just outside top 25; hopefully, we can make a move in there.”

Both teams will participate in five conference tournaments this semester as well as in an exhibition.

Cross-country recruiting

UT-Brownsville is looking for speedy ocelots to try out for its first cross-country teams.

“We are recruiting for both volleyball and cross-country; there is a transfer student joining in the spring and probably two more after that,” Athletics Director Lowery said.

Anyone interested in trying out for the team should call the men’s soccer Coach Dan Balaguero.

“Dan will take on a bit of the load, as far as coaching, and probably have an assistant for both men and women,” Lowery said.

No experience is needed to try out.

Asked who are the teams to beat in cross-country, Lowery replied: “In the past, Texas Wesleyan University and Our Lady of the Lake.”

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